

Middlebury

International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS)

Phone: 802.443.5858 E-mail: iss@middlebury.edu

Web: <http://www.middlebury.edu/international/iss>



Friends of International Students (FIS)

Host Program Newsletter

Winter 2017 - Notes from ISSS; Reminders; Important Dates; Upcoming Local Events; FIS Story Corner

Notes from ISSS

In late January, ISSS welcomed Alex Brauer as our new SEVIS & International Services Specialist. Having moved to Vermont from Kentucky, Alex is busy settling into the Middlebury community and learning the aspects of his role supporting the ISSS advisors and our many programs and processes. Stop by and say hello when you're in the area!

On February 7, ISSS welcomed five new international students during our Early Arrival for February students ("Febs"). This small group of students are from the UK, Morocco, Belgium, and Spain. We wish them well as they begin their journey at Middlebury and make our community their new home away from home. We expect a few of them to join the FIS program this term.

Thank you to those who have expressed an interest in being matched with a student during our winter matching. If you or anyone you know is interested in hosting a student in the fall, please let us know at iss@middlebury.edu.

Spring term began with a snowstorm on Monday, February 13 as students headed back to class after a brief break. With the snow came great excitement on campus as students look forward to Winter Carnival this weekend (see our Upcoming Local Events section).

We also want to thank everyone who has contacted us expressing concern regarding current Executive Orders that may have an effect on our international students, faculty and staff at the College here in Middlebury and at the Middlebury Institute of International Studies in Monterey, California. We want to assure all of you that ISSS will continue to monitor the situation and provide information and support to those affected by the Orders. We will provide updates regarding travel restrictions on our website when necessary (see: <http://www.middlebury.edu/international/iss/international-travel-restrictions-information>) and inform you if there is any way you can be of assistance during this uncertain time. Thank you for all of the kind offers you have already extended to our international friends.

Reminders

Host Information Changes

Please keep us posted about any address, phone or email changes so we can keep our records up-to-date. We wouldn't want you to miss out on important FIS program information.

Student Employment Restrictions

With very few exceptions, international students in the U.S. in F-1 student or J-1 exchange visitor visa status (which describes most of Middlebury's international students) are not allowed to work off-campus during the academic year. To accept off-campus employment related to their major during vacation periods, international students in F-1 status would need to make a special application (3–4 month application procedure that costs \$410). Unfortunately, this means that house sitting, babysitting, pet sitting, etc. for pay are not options for most international students. Internships during the summer are possible, but require advance planning. ISSS is offering workshops this month to inform students of the employment authorization application process for both graduating seniors and junior, sophomore and first-year students. More information can be found on the ISSS website [here](#). Please encourage your student to attend these important sessions.

Summer Employment on Campus

Middlebury undergraduates who want to work on campus in the summer can look for opportunities on the Student Employment website at: <http://www.middlebury.edu/offices/business/seo/summer>. Summer Employment & Housing Agreements are due by Wednesday, April 19.

Important Dates

Winter Carnival

Our 94th Annual Winter Carnival, the oldest student-run Winter Carnival in the nation, will be held from February 17-19. As part of the special weekend, Middlebury students have the day off from classes on Friday, February 17 to participate in Carnival activities. Many events are planned for the weekend. Come join us!

<http://www.middlebury.edu/student-life/annual-events/winter-carnival>

Spring break

The break will begin after the last class on Friday, March 24 and classes will resume on the morning of Monday, April 3. Some students may be going away during spring break, traveling with friends or visiting their families. Others may be staying on campus. Where will your international student be during the break this year? This is another great time to reach out and plan something fun if your student is on campus during the break. See our **Upcoming Local Events** section for ideas!

Upcoming Local Events

All of these events are free and no tickets are required...

Winter Carnival 2017 Historic Films Premier & Hot Chocolate Bar

Friday, February 17, 2017, 4:30 – 6 pm, McCullough Crossroads Cafe (The Juice Bar)

A special screening of films from the college archives showing students enjoying winter in Vermont from the 1920s to the 1950s.

<http://www.middlebury.edu/events?trumbaEmbed=date%3D20170217#/?i=1>

American Faces: A Cultural History of Portraiture and Identity
February 17–April 30, 2017, Middlebury College Museum of Art

An exhibit of ninety portraits which explores why we, as Americans, have a fascination with images of ourselves.

<http://museum.middlebury.edu/exhibitions/upcoming/node/1641>

Doric String Quartet

Thursday, March 9, 7:30 p.m., Mahaney Center for the Arts, Robison Concert Hall

This United Kingdom-based quartet comes to Middlebury for the first time to entertain us with music from Mendelssohn, Berg and Schubert.

<http://www.middlebury.edu/arts/performing/2016-2017-season#doric>

Timothy Cummings and Guests

Sunday, March 12, 4-7 p.m., McCullough Student Center, Wilson Hall

This year's St. Patrick's Day celebration features the music and dance of Ireland and Vermont. Audience participation is encouraged!

<http://www.middlebury.edu/events?trumbaEmbed=date%3D20170312#/?i=1>

Spring Student Symposium

Friday, April 21, 2017

The 2017 Spring Student Symposium highlights the academic and creative endeavors of our students through oral presentations, performances, artwork and readings. Many international students will present their research and they would love to have you there to support them.

<http://www.middlebury.edu/academics/resources/ctrl/students/uro/symposium>

Middlebury African Music and Dance Ensemble

Wednesday, April 26, 8-10 p.m., Mahaney Center for the Arts, Robison Concert Hall

The music and dance of this student ensemble explores African cultural, social, political and religious themes.

<http://www.middlebury.edu/events?trumbaEmbed=date%3D20170426#/?i=1>

Hirshfield International Film Series

Come to the Dana Auditorium on Saturdays at 3 p.m. or 8 p.m. to enjoy fabulous foreign and independent films.

<http://www.middlebury.edu/academics/fmmc/hirschfield/2016-2017>

Find other exhibitions, performances and events at the College by clicking on the following links:

- **The College Calendar:** <http://www.middlebury.edu/events>
- **Middlebury College Museum of Art:** <http://museum.middlebury.edu/>
- **Rohatyn Center for Global Affairs:** <http://www.middlebury.edu/international/rcga/events>
- **Addison County Chamber of Commerce:**
<http://www.addisoncounty.com/pages/calendar.asp?content=events>
- **Burlington happenings:** <http://www.sevendaysvt.com/>

FIS Story Corner

Thank you to hosts who have shared your memorable moments with us. Enjoy!

Just after Thanksgiving, Gerry Slager and Janet Chill, hosts to Sara Kljajic '20, shared this update...

"We had many great adventures during Thanksgiving week. It started with our annual friends "Turkey Trot" the Saturday before. About 40 friends from the old gang of Vermont Bicycle Tours get together every year for the day. We start with an outdoor adventure of either road/mountain biking or a hike. We chose a hike and Karina Zyatitsky, a friend of Sara's from Alaska, joined us for the day." Gerry shared that afterwards everyone met at the Lincoln Town Hall for a Thanksgiving potluck dinner and Sara and Karina met many of their good local friends. "Of course, I did not get any group pictures because we were having too much fun and everyone was enjoying getting to know them. Then on Thursday, we took Sara to our close friends' house to experience a typical Thanksgiving family dinner. We finished off the week with a trip to Burlington to see the VT Women's Craft show on Church Street and she even got to see Santa Claus! We have one more date with her on December 16 after finals to spend the day with her before she heads home for the holidays. We sure are going to miss her."



Gerry Slager, Janet Chill and Sara Kljajic '20 enjoying the holiday atmosphere in Burlington...

In early January, host Susan Polk wrote in to share her news...

“We had so many good times with Machi starting back at Thanksgiving and continuing through dinner last night. Machi made a delicious curry from a package her parents brought her from Japan. It is, improbably, called Vermont Curry, made with apples and honey flavorings. It is apparently very popular and well known in Japan. Her family has been eating it since long before a trip to Vermont was in the plans. She also borrowed a rice cooker from the Japanese House to prepare sticky brown rice from Japan. I can't express how much fun we are having!”



Machi cooking her “Vermont Curry” dish for her host family in January

Share your spring term stories and photos with us at iss@middlebury.edu and we will feature them in our upcoming spring newsletter.

**We appreciate the ongoing love and support you give to
our international students.
Thank you.**



Enjoy the spring term!

ISSS Staff

**Kathy Foley, Associate Dean and Director of ISSS
Joani Taylor, International Student and Scholar Advisor
Kas Singh, International Student and Scholar Advisor
Alex Brauer, SEVIS and International Services Specialist
Carolyn Dahm, Administrative Coordinator**